

United States House of Representatives



**Subcommittee on National Security,
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

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Chairman Shays to Hold May 9 Hearing on Anthrax Detection Methods

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (R-CT), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations, will convene an oversight hearing to examine what has been done and what is left to do to protect the nation after an anthrax attack.

Witnesses from the Government Accountability Office, Department of Defense, Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control, Department of Homeland Security and the Environmental Protection Agency will be testifying on anthrax detection measures and countermeasures in the event of a biological attack involving anthrax .

"It has been more than four and a half years since the United States was attacked by five letters containing anthrax spores, resulting in 22 individuals being infected with either the inhalational form or cutaneous form of anthrax with five of these victims losing their lives," states Shays. "There are still a number of concerns in regards to anthrax and medical countermeasures and the ability of the government to accurately detect anthrax is of most importance"

The hearing, "*Anthrax Protection: Progress or Problems?*" is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9 at 2:00 pm in room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, DC.

Committee on Government Reform
Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations
"Anthrax Protection: Progress or Problems?"

(May 9, 2006)

Witness List

PANEL ONE

Mr. Keith Rhodes

Chief Technologist
Center for Technology and Engineering, Applied Research and Methods
Government Accountability Office

PANEL TWO

Dr. William Winkenwerder

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
Department of Defense

Dr. Gerald Parker

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Health Preparedness
Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Richard Besser

Director Office of Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Susan Elizabeth George

Deputy Director of Biological Countermeasures Portfolio
Department of Homeland Security

Ms. Dana Tulis

Deputy Director for the Office of Emergency Management
Environmental Protection Agency

Accompanied by:

Mr. Mark Durno
On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) EPA Region 5
Environmental Protection Agency